(b) With effect from 1st April 1962 the special minimum guarantee has been reduced to Rs. 35 per h.p. per annum in all the areas in the State including Karur taluk.

Teacher-Pensioners' Association, Madras

* 70 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been received recently from the Teacher-Pensioners' Association, Madras, on the matter of temporary increase in pensions to teachers; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes.

(b) The request was examined by Government and the Association was informed of the Government's inability to accept it.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that the majority of teachers who have retired from elementary schools are getting Rs. 10 and below as pension whereas any adult in Tamil Nad gets Rs. 20 under the Old Age Pension Scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It is not merely teachers who have retired, but other Government servants have retired. They also get a paltry pension. If it is a question of getting old age pension, that depends on satisfying the rules prescribed for it, and if any teacher satisfies the rules prescribed, he would also be entitled to get Rs. 20 besides the pension that he receives.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that this temporary increase has been denied only to teachers whereas it has been paid to Government servants all along all these years?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not think that is the correct position. Government do feel that it would be a commitment that they will not be able to fulfil and that they cannot agree to grant it.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government give an assurance that if it is the case that the teachers alone have been denied this, they will consider the proposal?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no question of giving any assurance on this matter.

Jalakanteeswarar Temple at Vellore

* 71 Q.— DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to take up with the Archaeological Department of the Government of India, the revival of worship in the Jalakanteeswarar Temple at Vellore; and